

Mr. Speaker, an excellent model of a TRIO Program can be found at an institution in my home district. At Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, participants in the Student Support Program have a remarkable track record of success. Their achievements include the following:

95% of all students who receive program services for two consecutive semesters return to school for a third semester.

More than 75% of undergraduates in the Student Support Program had grade point averages at or above 2.5 during the 1997–98 school year.

More than 98% of Student Support Program students who apply for graduation during their junior year graduate.

Statistics are a useful measure of the Student Support Program's success at Western Michigan University. However, stories of students' personal accomplishments in the face of adversity also testify to the program's impact on individuals' lives. Consider, for example one shy and uncertain young woman who entered the Student Support Program three years ago as a freshman.

Unfamiliar with the academic world and undecided about her direction, she gradually gained confidence in her own potential and ability. Eventually she was inspired to help other students adjust to the demands of college life by becoming a Peer Mentor in the program. She is now knowledgeable and secure enough to offer others the support she once needed herself. Next year she will graduate with a bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Another bright and promising student in the program struggled with a learning disability that affected the way he processed information. In spite of this, he was determined to earn a degree in business. As he battled on through math and accounting, often repeating courses, his Peer Mentor provided unwavering support and encouragement. This young man overcame countless challenges and, in December 1998, realized his dream when he was awarded a bachelor's degree in business.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the Student Support Program at Western Michigan University, these two students are examples of the thousands of students in a position to make their best contributions to our society.

#### HONORING THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE ON ITS 84TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 1999*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United States Naval Reserve on their 84 years of dedicated service. Comprised of 94,000 men and women, the Naval Reserve is an integral part of the United States military force.

Authorized on March 3, 1915 by the Naval Appropriations Act, the U.S. Naval Reserve is one of the world's largest and most well trained forces. Originally intended to be comprised of former active duty sailors, the Naval Reserve now consists of former officers, former enlisted men and women and volunteers. This gives them their reputation of being the military force that brings the best "Bang for the Buck."

Mr. Speaker, our Naval Reserve brings tremendous contributions to our Armed Services and our Nation. As a former Naval Reserve Officer, it is with great pride that I extend my most heartfelt thanks for their 84 years of dedication and service.

#### THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH ACCESSIBILITY ACT

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 1999*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman DAVID PRICE and I are introducing the Congressional Research Accessibility Act to make Congressional Research Service (CRS) products available to the public on the Internet. Senators MCCAIN, LEAHY, LOTT, ABRAHAM, ENZI and ROBB are introducing similar legislation in the Senate.

Under this bill, CRS will post Issue Briefs, Reports, and Authorization and Appropriation products to a centralized web site no earlier than 30 days and no later than 40 days after the information is made available to Members of Congress through the CRS web site. Through a link on their own web pages, Members of Congress and Committees may provide the public with access to the information stored on this centralized site. The 30-day delay will ensure that CRS has carried out its primary statutory duty of informing Congress before making the information available for public release. Also, it will allow CRS to verify that its products are accurate and ready for public release.

The bill requires the Director of CRS to make the information available in a practical and reasonable manner that does not permit the submission of comments to CRS from the public. The Director of CRS is responsible for maintaining and updating the information made available on the centralized site and shall have sole discretion to edit that information for the purposes of removing references to employees of CRS, removing information which may cause copyright infringement and ensuring the information is accurate and current. Members of Congress will still be able to make confidential requests which will not be released to the public.

Congress has worked to make itself more open and accessible to the public. The Congressional Research Accessibility Act will enable us to further engage the public in the legislative process and fulfill one of our missions as legislators to better educate our constituents.

#### A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BYDASH, CUYAHOGA COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

#### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 1999*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Dennis Bydash is proud to note that he has risen from the very bottom of the office of Gerald E. Fuerst, Clerk of Courts, who nominated him for this award, to the very top. Starting in 1972

as a filing clerk, hired for a 90 day period, he has, in almost 27 years, been given 6 promotions and now serves in a key leadership position as the Office Manager of the Civil Division, where he supervises over 100 employees and acts as the liaison between the Clerk's office and the 57 judges who depend on the Clerk's office and the offices of the County Prosecutor, the County Sheriff and the County Auditor.

To Dennis, the most rewarding aspects of his service in the Clerk's office is to see a smile on the face of an individual or to receive a thank you directly or through a letter to Mr. Fuerst. He recognizes that the Justice Center can be cold and intimidating to the average citizen and works hard to see that the Clerk's office helps that average citizen when it can or that it directs the individual to the appropriate office in the justice system.

Dennis is also active in his local community. He has participated in insuring that the Broadway neighborhood received a new fire station. He has served as President of his Ward's Democratic club for 16 of the last 18 years. He has volunteered in many political campaigns from the Congressional to the local level.

Beyond that, Dennis is an avid photographer and student of railroading, with a large collection of memorabilia, including thousands of his own pictures of railroads, some of which have been published. He is happy also to grow vegetables in his garden and can them.

Dennis recalls fondly a 1977 inquiry on the filing of a divorce from a young lawyer during the midst of accusations by some lawyers that the Clerk's office's employees, in helping the public, was practicing law without a license. Despite his fear that the question might be part of that effort, he helped the lawyer, in his own words "in a somewhat hard way." Just over two years later, he and that lawyer, Michael Tyner married, and they recently celebrated their 18th anniversary.

#### COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVE- MENTS OF MARCIA YUGEND

#### HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 1999*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today. Marcia Yugend, a well respected leader in the Twin Cities Jewish community, lost her life February 3, 1999. A native of Little Falls, Minnesota, Yugend was a remarkable community leader who will be missed dearly by many in the Twin Cities' religious communities with whom she worked tirelessly to promote interfaith harmony across the globe.

Yugend founded Feminists in Faith, a group of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim women who worked together to promote women's religious issues and interfaith understanding. In 1985, Yugend created the Jewish Women-Palestinian Women Dialogue and later created the Black-Jewish Women's Dialogue. A lifelong student and scholar, Yugend recently received a master's degree in liberal studies from St. Paul's Hamline University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University.

Yugend was also the first female president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of